

# APIC



# KEYNOTER

## NEWS OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS COLLECTORS

DECEMBER 1962 \*\* Issued four times yearly \* U. I. Chick Harris - EDITOR

Some of the behind the scenes activities of the APIC can be seen from the enclosed material submitted with this copy of the KEYNOTER. You will find an application (& information) blank which we are asking each of you to complete. Some different and additional information is asked and will be used in coded form in our 1963 roster and everyone must furnish information.

The final and approved CONSTITUTION is also enclosed. It has been so long in preparation as we wanted one which would be inclusive, yet not be a burden on the Secretary-Treasurer and other officers. It is our opinion that if we have a CONSTITUTION it should be workable and followed.

You will note that the CONSTITUTION takes a definite stand on copies of political items--call them restrikes, reissues, facsimilies, copies or what-ever--actually they are all fakes and should be recognized as such. If all collectors show their disapproval and refuse to purchase, it will go a long way to stopping such production. Anyone can be misled, especially if ordering by mail and if so make a definite protest to the source of supply and return the items for refund. Also notify the President and the Secretary of the APIC so that the membership can be put on notice. If we offer a united front it won't take long to stop such practices. It is usually done under the guise of being a service to collectors--helps fill hard to find spaces but it is actually a disservice to the hobby and to all collectors.

## A. P. I. C. Mail Auction

The Winter APIC Mail Bid Auction is all set up. V. P. Jack Putman has agreed to head the Auction Committee and the forms for offering your duplicate or similar items is enclosed. This is one of the finest ways you can help the APIC and your fellow collectors and at the same time be assured of a fair price for your item. The deadline for your offers is December 20, so check your collection, right now, and get it in the mail to Jack. The APIC and especially the newer collectors thank you very much. We hope you will use the price guide in setting the minimum (no minimum is required tho) and as a guide to your bidding. A prices realized list will be sent to all, now that you all have a better idea of value to help make your minimums and bidding more realistic. Incidentally the reaction to the price guide was very favorable, glad you liked it.



# Candidate Research Project

by Charles M. Williams (#121)

For many years I have striven to acquire and tabulate pictures and signatures of all the characters who have arrived on the American Political Scene, with the intention of becoming President or Vice-President. After checking through all the sources at my disposal, including advertising and pestering the men and women who are still alive, I have been about 80% successful so far. I became a challenge and the fact that many of the candidates have proven to be most uncooperative has added impetus to my desire to complete the collection.

In response to a request from Chick I agreed to give a little resume of the project which your Committee is tackling at present. For the past nine months we have been compiling a list, as complete as possible, which will encompass the names of all candidates for President and V. P. over the years. Starting with the various lists which were then available, we compiled a master list. Copies of this were sent to all the Committee members for study and any additional names they had run across. Quite a few new names were added to the master list. Some of the other APIC members who were not on the Committee have helped too by submitting the names of candidates they had picked up along the way.

From the data a finished record will be compiled in alphabetical order which eventually will be the master record on this subject. It will always be open for restudy, since the light of history is very dim in many of our political areas and new evidence is constantly being unearthed which changes and has changed many of our findings. We will have a complete file embracing the evidence and sources of all the accepted candidates. I hope this will be the 'bible' which will be used to defend or reject and future arguments as to when or why or who is on the list. Over the years this will become more complete and members are requested to send any suggestions or corrections (with source data) they may have.

Our present thinking is that the final list will be put into booklet form in alphabetical order and also listed by campaigns. Of course, the problem of expense enters into the picture and will dictate how much can or should be allotted to the project.

Suggestions and additional information from APIC members will be appreciated and evaluated. We are sorry that every member could not be active on the Committee. I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed their time and effort to this project. (Editors note- Charlie has done a truly outstanding job and has been most cooperative and is deserving of a BIG APIC VOTE OF THANKS, no one could have done better, and few would have offered their time and talents so unselfishly.)



# The Secretary's Corner

by Ferd O'Brien, your Secretary-Treasurer.

We welcome to membership the following collectors and hope they will avail themselves of the many advantages open to them: (Please add to roster)

- #197 - Harold E. Feinstein; 1160 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles 15, CALIF.;  
President of Aldine Co., (3-a-e-k-l-posters & printed mat.) RI9-7001
- #198 - James B. Schick; 803 State St., Madison, WISCONSIN; Post.Grad.Student.  
(2-a-d-e-f-1) AL5-0025
- #199 - Roddy Snyder, Box 710, Havre, MONTANA; Student, (1-a-e-g-l-m)
- #200 - William C. Marlatt; Bishop Roberts Hall, Greencastle, INDIANA,  
Student, (2-a-d-e-1) OL3-3131
- #201 - J. Harold Cobb; 141 Pelham Ave., Hamden 18, CONNECTICUT (3-a-GW items)

Change of address:

- #134 - Samuel Porter; 702 East 31st St., Anderson, INDIANA

Change of number - Steve has asked for his old number back and since his old number was open, the request was granted.

- #138 - Stephen H. Bibler; 5506 N. E. 73rd St., Seattle 15, WASHINGTON.

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Your secretary expresses his gratitude to the many members who have written to him in the past quarter. Your letters have been kind; and as I promised, I have answered all who were good enough to write.

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Our supply of 1962 Roster Booklets is nearly exhausted. Should anyone wish a clean copy for his file, a stamped envelope will do the trick. Some day these will be 'items' too.

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Its getting to be that time of year again, yes your APIC dues for 1963 are due. All of you boys and girls can help your faithful scribe in two ways: 1) Send him your check for three dollars for your dues. 2) Be sure to fill out the enclosed, revised information (and application) form. We must have complete information on each member so the roster can be of help. Chick & I have revised the keying so your new 1963 roster will be more valuable to you next year. Follow-up letters, like all other mailings, will be more costly in 1963--so please, send 'em in early and don't forget. You can do your organization a real service by being prompt in these two matters.

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From all parts of the compass come warnings of imitation lithograph copies of old buttons. Florida, California, New York, Ohio and here in Illinois too. I purchased two as evidence --they are very smooth, with a



painted look. They are definitely non-contemporary; Leonard Stark has alerted the Amalgamated Lithographers' Union (whose label they bear) that they are being offered as genuine, and thus are an attempt to defraud. Apparently they are not fooling anybody, as five people who wrote me, spotted them instantly. There are also some celluloid copies making the rounds and have heard rumblings of some tough jugates (Cox-FDR)(Davis-Bryan) and others that may in the works--so BE ALERT and keep us informed. If a newer collector is in doubt you would do well to make a friend of one who can advise, or your Secretary will be glad to help. He numbers among his friends the greatest ferro, medal, ribbon and celluloid men in the field.

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Nathan Eglit has a fine well-rounded exhibit of P. A. in the lobby of the Garland Building in downtown Chicago. It daily attracts large crowds. Included is the first voting machine, loaned by Leonard Stark. It is from 1908 with all the name cards intact, and was used in a small town in Iowa. The exhibit makes reference to Mr. Eglit's forth-coming book "The Story of Political Tokens, Badges and Buttons". Nate has set 1964 as a target date for publication.

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If you'd care to gamble a dollar, sent it to: White House Historical Assn., Room 1013, Interior Dept. Building, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for a copy of "The White House: An Historical Guide". It is the most beautiful work on the subject I've ever seen - a must for every collector's library. Jackie Kennedy is the guiding hand behind it.

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From Steve Bibler comes the following recollections of the highly successful Spring auction: "Running the APIC Auction was a lot of fun--along with the splendid cooperation of Wayne LaPoe and my secretary at the office. I set up a system and procedure based on my previous experience so that offers and bids were handled smoothly. Of course we had the usual withdrawals and cancellations, which are a nuisance, as well as late bids. There were 58 items offered by 31 owners, 167 bids received from 43 bidders. All items but 13 were sold. The most popular items based on the number of bids received were--Smith-Robinson jugate pin; Mechanical pin of McKinley and Bryan; Hanly-Landrith jugate pin and the Al Smith brown derby hat pin. I would like to see the next auction based on no starting bid or limit." (Editors note--Yes Steve, it's all set, Jack Putman has agreed to Chairmen the Winter auction, see full details enclosed.)

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"The collecting of political campaign items has not reached the stage of forming a national association, but the Hobby is growing, and I predict that it will come." If this statement sounds odd--it appeared in the 1940 September, issue of 'Hobbies Magazine'. It was the closing sentence of an article on the subject by A. Atlas Leve. (He became one of the early members of the APIC, when formed.)

The very best of luck,  
Ferd O'Brien-Secretary-Treasurer.



## INTERESTING READING - MAGAZINE ARTICLES

### American Magazine

- August 1956 (Page 46) A short story about A. G. Trimble (button mfr.) and pictures some Ike, Taft, & Dewey items.  
October 1952 (Page 48) Deals with collection of Alex Prentz of Brooklyn, and includes a color picture of part of his collection.  
June 1948 (Page 125) Article about button man Joe Ross of Empress Spec.Co.

### Business Week

- June 18, 1960 (Page 32-33) Deals with the effects of an election year on the button, trinket, and flag industries. Photo of assorted 1960 items.

### Colliers

- October 26, 1956 (Pages 42-43) Brief history of political campaigns since 1956, with the use of buttons and tokens. (Color pictures)

### Hobbies

- August 1960 (Cover + pages 28-29) Interesting article on political campaigns, with illustrations of items from G.W. Article & items of Joe Brown.  
June 1960 (Page 120) Favorite son & odd-ball badges from 1952-56, article and items illustrated - C. W. Fishbaugh.  
November 1958 (Pages 48-49) Article on T. R. with items from Gov. to Bull M.  
March 1958 (Pages 46-47) Article and items of Mrs Marcia S. France of Alhambra, California.  
February 1958 (Cover + pages 26-27) Article and photos of Joe Brown's outstanding Lincoln items.  
October 1956 (Pages 24-25+Cover) Deals with campaign slogans and the collection of Sam Cousley.  
July 1952 (Cover + pages 18-21) Article on collection and items in the Carl E. Dorr Collection (Now at Syracuse U.) Many unusual 19th Century. Also on page 22 Joe Fuld has an article on Political Americana.  
July 1948 (Page 44) Another fine article on Pol. Am. by Joe Fuld. (Joe's items will soon be in the City Museum, Hailey, Idaho.)  
February 1947 (Page 32) Waldo C. Moore writes about celluloid buttons.  
September 1944 Article about political buttons  
November 1940 (Page 37) Political clothing buttons, with illustrations.  
September 1940 (Pages 15-16) Edward Stern writes on political ribbons.

### Life

- July 4, 1960 (Pages 89-92) (Entire issue deals with U. S. politics. Middle spread in color with Torches, lanterns, etc., from Smithsonian, Ralph Becker, Sam Cousley, and Susan Douglas. Also items from our last 25 elections from the J. Doyle DeWitt collection.  
October 7, 1940 (Pages 96-97) Article and two pages of 1940 buttons.  
May 16, 1960 Article on the 1912 Campaign.

### Look

- August 2, 1960 Political Americana Collection



## INTERESTING READING CONTINUED

### Newsweek

- August 13, 1956 (Pages 75-76) Article similar to Business Week (6-18-60) pictures a few 19th Century items.  
February 28, 1944 (Page 60) An examination of button trends of 1940-44, with a few dated pictures of older items.  
September 30, 1940 (Page 15) 1940 buttons and some photos of same.

### New Yorker

- April 19, 1952 (Pages 23-24) Empress Specialty Co, and some Ike buttons.

### New York Times Magazine

- October 9, 1960 (Page 75) Pictures Lincoln ferres to Kennedy, with dates.  
June 10, 1956 (Page 18) Deals with the attractiveness and reasons for survival of campaign buttons.  
April 27, 1952 (Page 60) Pictures the favorite son buttons of 1952.  
October 22, 1944 (Page 20) General article on buttons, some pictured.  
October 13, 1940 (Page 2) History and production of buttons.

### Numismatist

- November 1958 (The Theodore Roosevelt Number) Article by Elston G. Bradfield, Melvin & George Fuld & N.N. Eglit. Pictures 23 plates of T. R. items from collections of V. Bruce Davis, J Doyle DeWitt, N. N. Eglit, U. I. Harris, Chas. McSorley, Robert S. Morgan, H. V. Olive, Max M. Schwartz, Arlie Slabaugh, J. B. Stack and Ernest Weidhaas.  
December 1959 (The Abe Lincoln Number) Article by George & Melvin Fuld, N. N. Eglit, and Paul H. Ginther. Pictures 9 plates of Lincoln items, from collections of Paul Ginther, N.N. Eglit, Joe Brown, G. W. Hall, L. W. Jones, and Elston G. Bradfield.

### Reporter

- May 3, 1956 (Pages 2-4) Exerpts from an Eisenhower speech, cleverly linked up with odd Ike campaign items. (Interestingly done)

### Saturday Evening Post

- July 7, 1956 (Pages 22-23) Two color pages of items covering most every candidate from Jackson to Ike, all items dated and nicely arranged.

Available from the Congressional Quarterly Incorporated, 1156 19th St. N.W., Washington, D. C., is a special report, being part II, supplementing 1961 weekly report #8 on PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES FROM 1788 to 1960. Cost \$1.00.

The Magazines listed on these two pages contain articles dealing with Political Americana, and were taken from lists submitted by the following APIC: Dave Frost #192, Steve Bibler #138, Ralph DeGroot #82, & Chick Harris #139. We hope you find some real helpful and enjoyable reading in these back issues.



## SHOULD WE FEEL FLATTERED?

Have noted that TAMS, the organization of Medal & Token collectors, who are young in years, but really have had outstanding growth under the guiding hand of Dr. George Fuld, are at present working up a price guide. I believe this is the first such work in that field too, and we should probably feel flattered, as they are using a method quite similar to the one we used in preparing the APIC Price Guide.

They have asked members to quote their ideas of value, on a certain list of items furnished by TAMS. Upon receipt of the replies they will issue a price guide on these items. We hope that their efforts will be as rewarding as ours.

## A POLITICAL DICTIONARY ????

Have had correspondence from many newer collectors, who are not familiar with the terms associated with the collection of Political America. The following is a starter group - a political dictionary, hope to add more later on:

Token (Political token) coin like medal, made of brass, copper, white metal, (some silver & gold too) issued from Jackson (1824) to present, but most popular prior to 1896.

Celluloid - referring to celluloid fronted buttons with metal rims, patented in 1894, first used in 1896 and many of the early ones had a type of shank back, rather than a pin.

Pin Back - the most common political item, a button formed of tin & celluloid or a tin lithograph.

Litho (lithograph) a painted medal button, first used extensively in the 1920 campaign, and now replacing the more expensive celluloid, to a great extent.

Jugate - a photo type item depicting both the Pres. & V.P. candidates.

Ferrottype (Ferro) a tin type picture on iron, first used in the 1860 campaign. Many brown cardboard photo type items are incorrectly referred to as ferros.

King #'s - numbers given by King to Lincoln items illustrated in his book.

Low #'s - numbers given by Low to Civil War & Hard Times Tokens.

Satterlee #'s - Numbers given by Satterlee in his 1862 book, to tokens from John Adams thru the 1860 election.

DeWitt #'s - Numbers given to political items in J. Doyle DeWitt's 1960 book, 'A Century of Campaign Buttons-1789-1889'. A limited supply is still available, if interested in this outstanding work, with thousands of illustrations, write your Secretary for address. It's the best \$25.00 you'll ever invest.



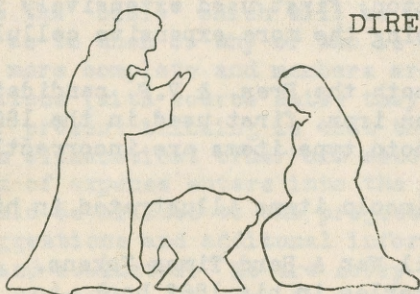
### IS YOUR COLLECTION INSURED?

'Better to be SAFE than SORRY' is an old saying, but it could not be truer than if just coined yesterday. With the values of Political Americana advancing all the time, I feel that I should once again remind you of the very inclusive and reasonable insurance coverage offered by the Travelers Insurance Company. The long winter evenings are upon us and if you've been putting off inventorying your collection for insurance purposes or just for 'kicks', there is no better time than the present. It is not necessary to describe every button, but a detail of what you have is necessary and will be a rewarding experience, as well as a real eye-opener (I speak from personal experience). Your Travelers Agent can give you full information as to what is needed and rates which will apply.

### A LITTLE DIFFERENT KEYNOTER

You have probably noted that the KEYNOTER has eight pages, this time, and is a little different format, etc., We had so much extra printing with the Auction sheet, the Constitution, and the new Application and Information blank, that we decided that it would be easier to have them do the whole job. Hope you like this issue and that you continue to keep your President and Secretary-Treasurer informed of what you like and what you'd like to see changed or improved upon. The APIC is your organization and we are eager to be of help to all classes of members, from beginner to advanced collector. IF YOU LIKE THE APIC, TELL YOUR COLLECTOR FRIENDS, IF YOU DON'T, TELL US.....

THE A. P. I. C. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS, WISH YOU AND YOURS



A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY  
SEASON AND HOPE THAT  
SANTA HAS A CHOICE  
POLITICAL ITEM FOR YOU.

Better do it right now, before you forget, or the Christmas and Holiday rush starts--CHECK YOUR DUPLICATES FOR AN AUCTION ITEM AND SEND TO JACK PUTMAN. COMPLETE INFORMATION BLANK AND SEND WITH YOUR DUES TO FERD.....



Fellow A P I C,

Re: Proposed Meeting - DROPPED.

Mail Auction - YES, see details.

The response to the inquiry, regarding an APIC meeting in Fremont, in June or July hasn't been enthusiastic enough to warrant further action. Let's hope that with more advance notice next year, that we can have a meeting. No one is more sorry than I am that we could not carry through and I sincerely hope that the cancellation won't affect your vacation plans adversely.

The idea of an auction was very well received, so we'll have a mail auction and will run it as outlined in the enclosed auction letter. We hope to have well over a hundred items, so check your duplicates for something nice, which will help make our first auction a real success. Every member will have an equal chance to fill gaps in their collections and we hope your bidding will be realistic and enthusiastic.

Please note the deadline dates for offering items - July 20, 1961 - for bidding, all bids must be received by August 31, 1961.

Here's hoping that each of you get the items you want most.

*Chick Harris*

U. I. Chick Harris, President.



## APIC AUCTION RULES

### Rules applying to Offeree:

1. Each APIC member may offer one, two, or three items or lots. (A group of similar items may be considered as a lot.) If more than one item is offered list in order of preference, as we may have space to offer only one item, we'll attempt to offer if possible.
2. Each item or lot must be described on the form provided or a copy thereof, and described as fully and accurately as possible; especially noting anything which would detract or make the item more desirable.
3. Offeree must set a minimum price for each item or lot and should take into consideration the shipping and packing charges, in setting his price.
4. Offeree agrees to ship prepaid and insured (or guarantees delivery) of the item, upon receipt of full bid price, after notification from the APIC Auction Committee
5. Offeree further agrees that if item isn't as described, full purchase price will be refunded, upon return of the item or lot, or refer disagreement to Auction Committee and will abide by their decision.
6. Closing date for offers is July 20, 1961, do not send items, only their full description on the form provided.

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### Rules applying to Bidder:

1. Each bid must be submitted by an APIC member and must be a bona-fide offer.
2. Each bid must be worded as shown on the attached sheet and sent in a plain envelope and marked in the upper right hand corner "APIC Lot # \_\_\_\_\_".
3. Each bid must be submitted in a separate envelope.
4. Successful bidder agrees to send full payment to the offeree promptly upon notification from the APIC Auction Committee that he is the successful bidder.
5. Successful bidder (purchaser) agrees that if item isn't as represented, he will notify offeree and ask if it is O. K. to return. If offeree refuses, both parties are to submit statements to the APIC Auction Committee for a decision. The Committee's decision will be final and binding on both parties.
6. All bids must be submitted to APIC Auction Committee,  
C/O Chick Harris  
6223 Mardel Ave.  
St. Louis (9) Mo.
7. All bids must be received by August 31, 1961.

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### Committee Procedure:

1. All sealed bid envelopes will be opened by the Auction Committee, during the Labor Day week end.
2. Highest bid over stated minimum will be the purchaser. In case of a tie, the first tie bid to be opened will be considered the purchaser.
3. Auction Committee will notify both the offeree and the purchaser.
4. Committee will arbitrate disputes regarding misrepresentation; if the item or lot has not been misrepresented, the bid price must be considered binding.

NO ITEMS ARE TO BE SENT TO THE AUCTION COMMITTEE, SEND ONLY DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS YOU WISH TO OFFER, AND THE SEALED BIDS. SALE IS BETWEEN APIC OFFEREE AND PURCHASER, with the Committee acting only as a go-between.



APIC AUCTION OFFICIAL FORMS FOR OFFERING ITEMS

"I agree with the rules as stated by the Auction Committee and offer this item or lot. I have described as fully and accurately as possible. I will accept the best offer of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or more, and will ship postpaid and insured, upon receipt of payment from the purchaser as designated by the APIC Auction Committee."

Give Satterlee, King, DeWitt #'s if possible. Describe fully, give size, condition, material, etc., etc., especially noting anything which would detract from the item, i.e., if worn, faded or soiled etc. Use descriptive terms such as very bright, good color, almost in original condition etc., rather than class terms such as good, fair, very good, etc.

FIRST ITEM OR LOT I OFFER IS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF ABOVE: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND ITEM OR LOT: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF SECOND ITEM: \_\_\_\_\_

THIRD ITEM OR LOT I OFFER IS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF THIRD ITEM: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full name Address # APIC

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# OFFICIAL BID FORMS - APIC AUCTION

Each bid must be submitted on this form or a facsimile thereof, and enclosed in a separate envelope which is to be marked in the upper right hand corner "APIC Lot #\_\_\_\_\_".

"I agree to pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ for item #\_\_\_\_\_ listed on the APIC Auction Sheet, if I am the successful bidder. I understand that the item will be sent to me postpaid and insured by the offeree, upon receipt of full payment."

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ #  
 Name Full Address APIC

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"I agree to pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ for item #\_\_\_\_\_ listed on the APIC Auction Sheet, if I am the successful bidder. I understand that the item will be sent to me postpaid and insured by the offeree, upon receipt of full payment."

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ #  
 Name Full address APIC

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SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ #  
 Name Full address APIC



### SPECIAL APIC NEWS-BULLETIN

This is a report of the voting on the changes in our Constitution and the site of our 1964 Convention. The final tally is as follows: The proposed changes were favored by wide margins--Article I, Section 4 and Article III, Section 2 by over 93%; Article IV, Section 2 by over 96%. Since 75% was needed for passage, all have passed and a revised copy of our Constitution will be sent with the Spring KEYNOTER. The APIC Executive Board, who sponsored these changes, thanks you for your strong support.

The other important news is our 1964 Convention. The response was very good and the race spirited. Hartford, Connecticut will be the site and the dates will be August 19 and 20, or 20 and 21, this would be the Thursday and Friday or Friday and Saturday just prior to the Democratic Convention which opens in Atlantic City on Monday, August 24. There were almost twice as many first place votes for Hartford than any other site, and as many indicated that they would attend in Hartford as Springfield, Illinois the runner-up city; San Francisco was third in the balloting.

With so many activities on the East coast this summer it is not surprising that Hartford was selected. Because of J. Doyle DeWitt's fabulous display, known as 'America Goes To The Polls', Hartford is the Political Americana Capital of Americana for 1964. The 1964 exhibit will be twice its 1960 size, and this will probably be the last time it will be on display in its entirety. Our Convention coming at this time should make it almost a must for any serious collector. You can make it a part of a package deal--the APIC Convention and the A. G. P. exhibit in Hartford, the N.Y. Worlds Fair, and the Democratic Convention--all are within a few hours by Turnpikes. I surely hope you can arrange your vacation to be with us in Hartford.

Some of the Convention activities will be a real live P. A. auction, authoritative and informative speakers, a banquet, election of officers, trading and buying sessions, etc. Let us know what you expect and we'll try to please the majority, you can be assured of that. The balloting indicated that there will be a good representation from all parts of the country, so to meet old friends, or make lots of new ones, its Hartford in August 1964. The Spring KEYNOTER will give further details and will include a questionnaire as to whom will attend, and what you'd like to see included on the agenda.

Our Secretary Treasurer, Ferd O'Brien has asked me to remind you that your 1964 dues are past due and if you wish to be included on our 1964 roster you'll have to send your payment promptly. Actually there is no better time than the present--send your \$3.00 to Ferd now, before you put it off again. If you are in doubt as to having paid your dues, heres an easy way to tell--if your 1964 membership card is not enclosed with this news-bulletin you have not paid. So if you want to be a part of all the APIC activities and receive the KEYNOTER, the forth-coming Cox-Roosevelt research material and lots more--send your dues NOW.

Neither Ferd nor I have been able to write each of you, who wrote to say how pleased you were with the APIC activities. We want you to know that we do appreciate your telling us that we are on the right track and working along the lines which you had indicated to us that you preferred. Thanks again and we want you to know that this helps make the mid-night oil seem so worthwhile.

*Chick*

U. I. Chick Harris  
APIC President

*Ferd*

Ferdinand O'Brien  
APIC Secretary-Treasurer

P. S. Enclosed is the Winter 1963-64, price guide as promised in a recent KEYNOTER. You will note increases in value of many items over our last guide. Some are rather sizeable, others have not advanced at all, but the majority have moved upward. This is strickly a guide which the newer collectors should find especially helpful, we hope you find it so.

UIM

P.P.S. Ferd's address is 4142 W. 143rd St. Midlothian, Illinois.

8/24/64



# AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS COLLECTORS CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I

### Name, Area, Purpose, Fiscal Year and Meetings

Section 1: The American Political Items Collectors is a Not-for-Profit Corporation. (APIC)

Section 2: The APIC shall encourage the collection, preservation, and study of political tokens, medals, buttons, badges and all types of items pertaining to the election of President and other political officials of the U.S.A.. The APIC strongly condemns the issuance of restrikes, facsimiles, copies, etc., of all types of Political Americana, and will exclude from membership all those who engage in these endeavors, and publish full details of our disapproval. We urge all members to report any known sources to the President for action as may deemed fitting and proper. All members are encouraged to work closely with historical societies, museums, and other organizations that have similar interests in Political Americana, so that Political Americana may attain its rightful place in our American Heritage.

Section 3: The fiscal year of the APIC shall coincide with the regular calendar year.

Section 4: Each four years, during a National Political Convention, a general convention of APIC members is to be held, for purpose of election of officers and other business that may be deemed necessary. The Convention site and dates shall be selected by the President, taking into consideration the wishes of the majority of those who plan to attend, as determined by returns of a questionnaire sent at least 90 days prior to the earliest proposed date. Area groups of APIC members are encouraged to work together for the good of our hobby and APIC. Annual meetings of the general membership shall be promoted, with business that is deemed necessary by the President to be transacted. All APIC meetings are to be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 5: In the absence of the President at any APIC function, any of the Vice Presidents who will attend, shall be selected by the President to preside. Should the Secretary-Treasurer be unable to attend, the presiding officer shall designate any member present to serve in that capacity at such meeting. Minutes are to be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer ten days after the meeting.

## ARTICLE II

### Membership and Dues

Section 1: The APIC shall have the following classes of membership: Active, Emeritus, and Honorary.

Section 2: Those who are of good character and reputation and interested in the collection and preservation of Political Americana as defined above, shall be eligible as active members; emeritus membership and office may be extended in unusual circumstances, by a two-thirds vote at a duly authorized meeting. Emeritus members are entitled to all privileges except they may not hold a regular office, nor or they subject to dues. Honorary membership may be extended to those who have done much to further our hobby or the APIC, by two-thirds vote and are not subject to dues or may they vote or hold office.

Section 3: Application for active membership shall be made on forms furnished by the Secretary-Treasurer. Each applicant shall furnish complete information and must be approved by a member in good standing. Applications with the proper amount of dues shall be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer and accepted members will be sent a duly signed membership card, copy of the Constitution, current roster and pertinent communications. All members to be notified of new or dropped members quarterly.

Section 4: Membership dues shall be \$3.00 per year, payable in advance to the Secretary-Treasurer. All dues become due each January first and all members are to be sent a notice of expiration of dues by December 20 and followed again by January 15. Payment must be in the Treasurers hands by February first to insure inclusion in the roster, which is to be issued by March first. Those accepted for membership after June 30 shall pay dues of \$1.50. Any member may be dropped, for good reason, as determined by majority vote of the Executive Board.



Section 5: No debts shall be contracted in the name of the APIC, without the written consent of the President. Supplies, stationery, and related items used in the conduct of the respective offices and committees, shall be reimbursed upon presentation of a paid bill; no office machines or similar equipment is to be included in this category, unless especially approved by the Executive Board. Annual summary of expenditures and Treasurers report to be reported to membership annually. Treasurer's books and records may be subject to audit, at any time, upon thirty days written notice, by the President or the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE III

#### Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1: The APIC shall have a President; three Vice-Presidents, each of whom shall represent a different geographical section of the country; a Secretary-Treasurer; and six members of the Board of Directors. The Officers and Board of Directors shall constitute an Executive Board and by majority decisions may make major policy decisions and remove officers from their office. Vacancies between elections are to be filled by the President with majority approval of the Executive Board. Vacancy in the office of President to be filled by majority decision of the Executive Board, with the Secretary-Treasurer acting as Chairman.

Section 2: The Officers and Board of Directors terms expire at Convention time in the regular Presidential election year. All shall serve without compensation, excepting for reimbursement of expenses as outlined in Article II, Section 5, above.

Section 3: The Officers shall be responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the APIC, and have the usual duties delegated to their respective offices.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Voting

Section 1: Ninety days before the election, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three active members, shall be appointed by the President. This committee shall present to the President and Secretary-Treasurer a slate of nominees together with their acceptance in writing, sixty days prior to the election. Any member may also file a nominating petition, following the above rules, if signed by ten active members in good standing, to nominate for one office or a slate of offices. The Secretary-Treasurer shall send to all members a list of all nominees, at least thirty days prior to the election.

Section 2: All voting for office shall be by secret ballot, at the Convention. No proxy or absentee votes will be counted. Voting shall be by separate office and in this order: President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the Board of Directors; any one nominated but not elected may be nominated for any succeeding office.

Section 3: All active and emeritus members, in good standing, shall be entitled to one vote. The President shall have a vote in secret balloting but may vote in voice votes, to make or break a tie; tie votes losing.

Section 4: Elections shall be conducted by the presiding officer, as the first order of new business, and those elected shall assume office immediately upon completion of the balloting. A majority vote, of those voting, shall cause election.

### ARTICLE V

#### Committees

Section 1: The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee as set forth in Article IV, and he may appoint other committees as he deems necessary and desirable. He is ex-officio member of all committees.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Amendments

Section 1: This Constitution may be altered or amended only if the proposed change is originated by a majority decision of the Executive Board, or by a group of ten active members acting collectively. Proposed change, duly signed, is to be submitted to the President and Secretary-Treasurer sixty days before vote. Secretary-Treasurer is to publish the proposed change, as well as the present section, to the membership, at least thirty days before the voting. Voting is to be by ballot, with each member having one vote. Passage by a three-quarters majority, of those voting, is required. The membership is to be notified of the outcome in the next publication.



### COLLECTING POLITICAL AMERICANA

Some hints to help collectors build their collections and what items are generally found:

Since new items are daily finding day-light after being hidden in trunks and attics for years, we need to know where to look. Some of the more successful formulas are as follows: (1) Your friends and acquaintances, especially those politically minded; (2) The local politicians; (3) Newspaper editors and reporters; (4) Antique and hobby shops; (5) Publicity and advertising. To elucidate:

- (1) Your friends and acquaintances -- self explanatory
- (2) Local politicians -- introduce yourself to present and past office holders, from local committeeman on up. Most higher officials have been hounded and may not be of much help.
- (3) Newspaper men -- A local source of publicity and they have a surprisingly large amount of information and good leads.
- (4) Antique and hobby shops -- make yourself and your hobby known, especially in the local area. Very few have a knowledge of values, so top an asking price if possible; they'll go out of their way to look for politicals. Many shops which cater to dress button collectors as well as military and guns are your best bets.
- (5) Advertising -- Free local and national publicity is good for you and the hobby. Paid ads in hobby and antique magazines are used, but if you advertise expect to answer a lot of unfruitful correspondence as many are asking for values rather than legitimate offers to sell. If possible look for a publication which is not running one or more such ads at present.

You can be assured that political variety is almost limitless, some of the larger collections of Presidential items contain 20,000 items, another which included state and local, 50,000 items. You will find that generally non-presidential items are in less demand and are priced very reasonably and give added interest, especially to newer collectors. It is good though to set your sights and work toward a goal, being careful not to restrict the field so that you limit your chances of obtaining new items. In making your decision you'll want to know what's available from the various campaigns.

There are some George Washington inaugural cape and coat buttons as well as some medals, but the true political items began with Andrew Jackson in 1824. These were coin type items called political tokens and were usually holed and worn a watch fobs. Some were rather crude and were struck with Jackson's image on one side and slogans 'The Nations Good' etc. on others. Such items plus silk ribbons, cartoons, posters, ballots and prints are available from this period on. In 1860 a new innovation, the ferrotype, a tin type picture of the candidate encased in brass was first used. In 1864 other types of fancy framed pin back lapel items came into use, some had cardboard photos others ferrotypes. Items for torch light parades were popular and the variety of lapel items grew, in 1880 the military brass type button was popular and 1884 saw shank back enamels, composition, cloth covered buttons etc. In 1892 celluloid fronted buttons with metal rims were the fore-runners of full celluloids, which swept the country in 1896, the year of the big Gold-Silver controversy.

During the period of the 80's and 90's many novelty type lapel items, with moving parts such as Presidential chairs, coffins, flags, eagles, gold and silver bugs etc., were very popular and the acquisition of one of these is a collectors red letter day.

The early celluloids usually depicted both the Pres. & V.P. candidates, (jugates) and not until about 1916 did the name and slogan type item gain popularity. The lithograph, painted tin items were used in 1920 and today have become real competition for the nicer celluloid. Each election seems to produce a variety of new items, from plastic hats to cigarettes. At some time you'll have to decide if you want to include all types of items or if you'll limit yours to buttons and other small type items. There are many factors to be considered but finances and storage space will probably be the principle factors affecting your decision.

Political Americana is fascinating for the variety is great, the historical value is unlimited, and no one has seen or has catalogued all of the items and probably never will. Political items especially, never seem to fall in your lap, but tracking them down is always a thrill, one of the real fascinating aspects of our Hobby.

*Chick Harris*

U. I. Chick Harris, President APIC



In 1962 folder

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